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STATE OF ALASKA
Division of Elections
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

For Immediate Release: January 23, 2006

Statement by Division Director Brewster

(Juneau) - In response to a media release issued today by the Alaska Democratic Party, Division of Elections Director Whitney Brewster issued the following statement:

“The press release issued by the Alaska Democratic Party (ADP) today is inaccurate and misleading. The issue is not about whether public information can be released, because the Division of Elections has already offered to provide the information requested by the ADP. The ADP refused the same data referenced in their press release today. The issue is that the ADP is asking for a file format the State of Alaska uses but does not own.

The data requested is available to the ADP for review, however not in the format it would prefer.

Division of Elections personnel have met directly with ADP officials to help explain election data, and have made every effort to provide requested information. We will continue to assist the ADP in its requests for information while giving strong consideration to security and proprietary concerns.

Proprietary software is addressed in contracts with vendors based on State law. It is my understanding that this contract, based on State law, affirms that what the ADP is asking for is proprietary information and cannot be released.

It is my charge to protect the integrity of the election process, and I will continue to do so in order to ensure public confidence in Alaska's election process. My duty is to protect every voter in this State by protecting their personal information and any proprietary information.”

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